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REMARKS

Upon entry of this Response, claims 1, 3-13, 15-18, 20-21, and 23-28 remain present and active in the application.

Request for Personal Interview with Examiner

If for any reason the outstanding grounds of rejection are not withdrawn in light of the remarks below, Applicants respectfully request a personal interview with the Examiner prior to the issuance of any further rejections by the Office (MPEP 713.01).

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

1. The rejection of claim 22 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Hennen* (U.S. Patent No. 6,982,107 B1) in view of *Miyake et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 4,448,947) and *Shikinami et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 4,855,077) is believed to be a typographical error inasmuch as claim 22 was previously cancelled. Accordingly, withdrawal of this ground of rejection is respectfully requested.

2. The rejection of claims 1, 3-5, 8, 10-11, 16-18, 20-21, 23, 25, and 27-28 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Hennen* in view of *Miyake et al.*, the rejection of claims 6-7, 9, 12-13, and 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Hennen* in view of *Miyake et al.* and *Shikinami et al.*, and the rejection of claims 24 and 26 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Hennen* in view of *Miyake et al.* and *Crandall* (U.S. Patent No. 5,645,938) are respectfully traversed. As further explained below, none of the applied references, individually or in combination, teaches or suggests each and every element of independent claims 1 and 16.

As presently written, each of independent claims 1 and 16 recites (a) "an amount of the polyisocyanate to be compounded with respect to 100 parts by weight of the polyol...in the range of 1 to 30 parts by weight" and (b) "a mole equivalent of isocyanate group of the polyisocyanate with respect to one mole equivalent of active hydrogen contained in hydroxyl group of the polyol that can react with the isocyanate group...larger than 1." In other words, each of independent claims 1 and 16 recites a

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NCO/OH ratio that is larger than 1, such that the resultant polyurethane resin has a large number of isocyanate groups (i.e., is a polyurethane polyisocyanate). As acknowledged in the Office Action (page 4), *Hennen* fails to teach or suggest these elements of independent claims 1 and 16.

Moreover, *Miyake et al.* likewise fails to teach or suggest these recited elements of the independent claims. *Miyake et al.* describes a polyurethane polyol obtained by the reaction of an isocyanate component and a polyol component in which the number of oxadiazinetriene rings plus the total number of free isocyanate groups divided by the number of hydroxyl groups of the polyol component is less than 1.0 (e.g., claim 1). Since the number of oxadiazinetriene rings is included in the numerator of this fraction, the NCO/OH ratio described in *Miyake et al.* is significantly smaller than 1.

For example, *Miyake et al.* describes that "the number of oxadiazinetriene ring/the total number of free isocyanate group is in the range of 1/2 to 1/20" (e.g., claim 1). Thus, the NCO/OH ratio of *Miyake et al.* is less than $[1.0 \times (2/1+2)]$ to $[1.0 \times (20/1+20)]$ —that is, less than [0.67] to [0.95]—which is outside the range recited in each of independent claims 1 and 16.

Claims 6-7, 9, 12-13, 15, 24, and 26 depend directly or indirectly from independent claims 1 or 16. However, as noted above, *Hennen* and *Miyake et al.* fail to teach or suggest all of the elements of independent claims 1 and 16. Moreover, the deficiencies of *Hennen* and *Miyake et al.* are not remedied by *Shikinami et al.* and *Crandall*, which likewise do not teach or suggest all the elements of independent claims 1 and 16.

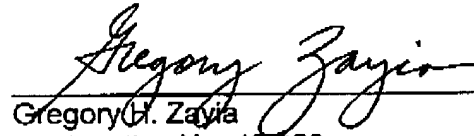
For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the claimed invention is neither anticipated by nor would have been obvious in view of *Hennen*, *Miyake et al.*, *Shikinami et al.*, and *Crandall*, individually or in combination. Accordingly, withdrawal of these grounds of rejection is respectfully requested.

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In view of the Remarks set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that the claimed invention is in condition for allowance. Early notification to such effect is earnestly solicited.

As noted above, unless the Examiner feels that the above Remarks place all of the claims in condition to be allowed, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned agent directly at (312)-321-4257 in order to arrange a personal interview to discuss this case.

Respectfully submitted,


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